

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (canceled)

2. (currently amended) The contact arrangement according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ 9 wherein each contact holder [[(3, 4)]] has a guide shank ~~(31, 41)~~ which sleeve that surrounds the insulating rod [[(2)]] and [[at]] on which is integrally formed an encircling collar ~~(32, 42)~~, at which the contact mounts [[(33, 34; 43, 44)]] are arranged opposite one another.

3. (currently amended) The contact arrangement according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ 9 wherein respective counter-bearing seats [[(35, 36; 45, 46)]] for the pins [[(5, 6)]] are provided in the region of the contact mounts [[(33, 34; 43, 44)]].

4. (currently amended) The contact arrangement according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein outer regions of the counter-bearing seats [[(35, 36; 45, 46)]] are vertically displaced offset by a small amount relative to the respective ~~corresponding~~ fastening bore of the respective mount [[(11, 12)]] at the insulating rod [[(1)]] in such a manner that the respective inserted pin [[(5, 6)]] is axially fixed.

1 5. (currently amended) The contact arrangement according
2 to claim ~~1, characterized in that~~ 9 wherein the upper contact
3 holder ~~[(2)]~~ and lower contact holder ~~[(4)]~~ are identical
4 components.

1 6. (currently amended) The contact arrangement according
2 to claim 9, further comprising: 1, characterized in that in
3 addition

4 an upper and a lower ~~screening shield~~ cap ~~(7, 8)~~ are
5 ~~provided, the having~~ open sides of which ~~that~~ each face the contact
6 ~~[(2)]~~, each ~~screening shield~~ cap ~~(7, 8)~~ has having a pair of
7 lateral fastening straps ~~[(71, 72; 81, 82)]~~ each formed with a
8 respective bore, ~~(73, 74; 83, 84)~~ and each ~~screening shield~~ cap
9 ~~(7, 8)~~ is being fastened to the insulating rod ~~[(1)]~~ in such a
10 manner that ~~each of the respective~~ pins ~~(6, 7)~~ is additionally also
11 guided also pass through the ~~respective corresponding bores of the~~
12 respective straps ~~[(73, 74; 83, 84)]~~.

1 7. (currently amended) The contact arrangement according
2 to claim ~~6, characterized in that the wherein~~ side edges of the
3 fastening straps ~~(71, 72; 81, 82)~~ is held fit in respective lateral
4 pockets ~~[(39, 49)]~~ of the respective contact holders ~~[(3, 4)]~~
5 ~~by mechanically positive coupling.~~

1 8. (currently amended) The contact arrangement according
2 to claim 6 ~~or 7, characterized in that wherein the~~ upper ~~screening~~
3 shield cap ~~[[(7)]]~~ and the lower screening shield cap ~~[[(8)]]~~ are
4 identical components.

1 9. (new) A contact arrangement for use on an insulating
2 rod having an upper fastening bore and a lower fastening bore, the
3 arrangement comprising:

4 a U-shaped contact having a pair of limbs each formed
5 with an upper bore and a lower bore, the contact being fittable
6 around the rod with the limbs flanking the rod and the upper and
7 lower bores of the limbs aligned with the respective upper and
8 lower bores of the rod;

9 respective upper and lower contact holders each having a
10 pair of mounts flanking the rod and respectively downwardly and
11 upwardly engaging the limbs of the contact, the mounts of the upper
12 contact holder being formed with bores aligned with the upper bore
13 of the rod and with the upper bores of the respective limbs and the
14 mounts of the lower contact holder being formed with bores aligned
15 with the lower bore of the rod and with the lower bores of the
16 respective limb;

17 an upper pin extending through the bores of the mounts of
18 the upper holder, the upper bores of the limbs, and the upper bore
19 of the rod; and

20 a lower pin extending through the bores of the mounts of
21 the lower holder, the lower bores of the limbs, and the lower bore
22 of the rod.

1 10. (new) The contact arrangement defined in claim 9
2 wherein the holders and pins are dielectric.

1 11. (new) The contact arrangement defined in claim 6
2 wherein the caps are of metal.